

The National Office has been involved in a Federal agency workgroup with the Urban Institute (UI). The goals of the UI work group are: 1) for Federal programs to improve their capacity to connect depressed women to mental health services; and, 2) to promote collaboration and coordination among Federal agencies to screen for, refer, and provide services to depressed mothers. The UI has researched this area and found that low-income mothers of young children have a very high prevalence of depression, making WIC an important partner in this effort.

In order to support this effort, the National Office is requesting examples (if available) of collaboration/coordination efforts between WIC and mental health services. It would be helpful to get a very brief description of activities, with contact names, of such activities that State and local WIC agencies are involved in. Please send an email with the information to the State Office, Chris Fogelman by Friday, April 13, 2012.